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18 April 1973

Dr. Ray S. Cline, Director
Bureau of Intelligence and Research
Department of State
Washington, D. C. 20520

Dear Ray:

Pursuant to our telephone conversation this morning, our task in this Country Profile venture is to lead off each NIS General Survey with a thematic essay designed to give the high-level reader an understanding of what the given country is like and what makes it tick. Our aim is to provide a brief overview (20-40 manuscript pages) in a sophisticated journalistic style.

Obviously, we need good writers with area background and enough knowledge of the intelligence community to be able independently to pull together pertinent sources and produce a Country Profile in about 2 months of work. So far the staff we are building here has produced Profiles for the four General Surveys that have been published in the new format, and sixteen others that are in one stage of processing or another.

The FY 74 schedule (attached) is upon us, and our immediate need is for someone familiar with Latin America (six LA countries are scheduled). Someone with area experience on African or South Asian affairs would also be a valuable addition. We have space available at our building here in Rosslyn for any officers the Department might be able and willing to assign on a 1-year rotational basis, or they could remain in place and do the work from your premises. I agree that assignment of FSO's to INR for this purpose would be an excellent idea.

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A copy of a recent Country Profile, Morocco, is attached.

The Department's field and headquarters review and critique of parts of the General Survey are very valuable to the NIS Program. It would be a happy situation to have the Department again making specific written contributions to the Program. Any assistance you can lend in this regard would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

John Kerry King
Director
Basic and Geographic Intelligence

Enclosures: 2

1. NIS Production Schedule for FY 1974
2. Morocco Country Profile

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